



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

2012 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 89

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2012

The following bill was reported to the House from the Senate and ordered to be printed.

RECEIVED AND FILED
DATE April 11, 2012
5:49 pm
ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BY Mary Sue Saleh

1 AN ACT relating to seat belts.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔ Section 1. KRS 189.125 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, "motor vehicle" as used in this section
5 means every vehicle designed to carry fifteen (15)~~ten (10)~~ or fewer passengers and
6 used for the transportation of persons, but the term does not include:

7 (a) Motorcycles;

8 (b) Motor driven cycles; or

9 (c) Farm trucks registered for agricultural use only and having a gross weight of
10 one (1) ton or more.

11 (2) A person shall not sell any new motor vehicle in this state nor shall any person
12 make application for registering a new motor vehicle in this state unless the front or
13 forward seat or seats have adequate anchors or attachments secured to the floor
14 and/or sides to the rear of the seat or seats to which seat belts may be secured.

15 (3) (a) Any driver of a motor vehicle, when transporting a child of forty (40) inches
16 in height or less in a motor vehicle operated on the roadways, streets, and
17 highways of this state, shall have the child properly secured in a child restraint
18 system of a type meeting federal motor vehicle safety standards.

19 (b) Any driver of a motor vehicle, when transporting a child under the age of
20 seven (7) years who is between forty (40) inches and fifty (50) inches in height
21 in a motor vehicle operated on the roadways, streets, and highways of this
22 state, shall have the child properly secured in a child booster seat.

23 (4) As used in this section:

24 (a) "Child restraint system" means any device manufactured to transport children
25 in a motor vehicle which conforms to all applicable federal motor vehicle
26 safety standards; and

27 (b) "Child booster seat" means a child passenger restraint system that meets the

1 standards set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 571 that is designed to elevate a child to
2 properly sit in a federally approved lap-and-shoulder belt system.

3 (5) Failure to use a child passenger restraint system or a child booster seat shall not be
4 considered as contributory negligence, nor shall such failure to use a passenger
5 restraint system or booster seat be admissible as evidence in the trial of any civil
6 action. Failure of any person to wear a seat belt shall not constitute negligence per
7 se.

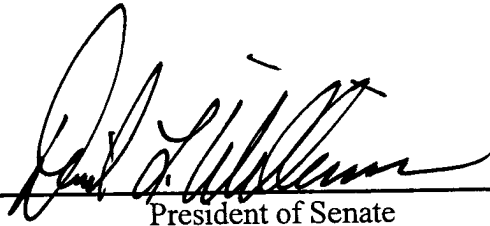
8 (6) A person shall not operate a motor vehicle manufactured after 1981 on the public
9 roadways of this state unless the driver and all passengers are wearing a properly
10 adjusted and fastened seat belt, unless the passenger is a child who is secured as
11 required in subsection (3) of this section. The provisions of this subsection shall not
12 apply to:

13 (a) A person who has in his possession at the time of the conduct in question a
14 written statement from a physician or licensed chiropractor that he is unable,
15 for medical or physical reasons, to wear a seat belt; or

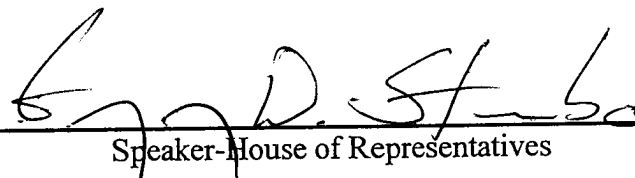
16 (b) A letter carrier of the United States postal service while engaged in the
17 performance of his duties.

18 (7) A conviction for a violation of subsection (6) of this section shall not be transmitted
19 by the court to the Transportation Cabinet. The Transportation Cabinet shall not
20 include a conviction for a violation of subsection (6) of this section as part of any
21 person's driving history record.

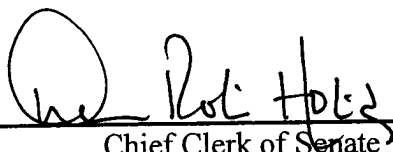
22 (8) The provisions of subsection (6) of this section shall supersede any existing local
23 ordinance involving the use of seat belts. No ordinance contrary to subsection (6) of
24 this section may be enacted by any unit of local government.



President of Senate



Speaker-House of Representatives

Attest: 

Chief Clerk of Senate

Approved 

Governor

Date 4-11-12